

NEBRASKA HOUSE ASKS PRESIDENT TO PROTECT MAIL

Members Almost Unanimously Adopt Resolution Requesting Further Curtailment of Service Be Stopped.

MUCH LOSS TO PUBLIC Instances Cited Where Clerks Are to Be Taken Off Runs Soon.

INSPIRED BY BEE'S STORY

(From Staff Correspondent.) Lincoln, Neb., March 20.—(Special.)—The house today almost unanimously adopted a resolution calling upon President Wilson to use his influence with the postmaster general to see if something could not be done to prevent further curtailing of the mail service of the United States and especially to prevent demoralizing the mail service in Nebraska.

The resolution was inspired by an article appearing in the Sunday edition of The Bee, in which pictures were shown giving the condition of the service at Council Bluffs terminal and an explanation of the matter by a mail clerk. This, with the understanding that the mail car on the Imperial line was to be taken off, prompted Representative Hoffmeister of Chase to have the resolution drawn and introduced.

Photo in Bee to Be Sent.

The article with the pictures taken from The Bee will be attached to the resolution and sent to Washington by the chief clerk.

Following are the resolutions:

"To the President of the United States:

"Whereas, recent changes in the railway mail service have discontinued railway mail clerks upon many important runs in Nebraska, resulting in great inconvenience to the public in the transmission of mail, and in the accumulation of important postal matter upon railway platforms, subject to injury by frost, rain and snow, and

"Whereas, this loss and inconvenience to the public, had enough at any time of the year, is especially vicious during the spring season, when seeds, bulbs and trees are being transmitted through the mail, and

People Not Consulted.

"Whereas, the people of Nebraska believe they have the right to as good a mail service as they have enjoyed hitherto, and that, in the administration of the postal service, which touches the everyday life of every citizen, arbitrary action by administrative officials at Washington, without notice to the public in any kind, tends to bring the postal department, the great arm of the federal government exempting its advantages of public ownership in its daily work, into disrepute, therefore be it

Disapproval Expressed.

"Resolved, That the house of representatives of Nebraska expresses its strong disapproval of this arbitrary treatment of our citizens by the postal department and demands that the railway mail service be restored and improved from time to time to accommodate the continuously growing needs of this state, and that the president of the United States be requested to take such action as will result in the restoration of the service and protection of the people's right to adequate mail facilities.

"Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted by the chief clerk to President Wilson, and that the senate of Nebraska be asked to join in a similar resolution."

Governor Introduces Bill To Buy Medals for Guards

Lincoln, Neb., March 20.—In a special message today, Governor Neville appealed to the legislature to pass a bill providing for a \$1,000 appropriation with which to purchase medals for the Nebraska guardsmen who were sent to the border last year. The bill was formally introduced and read the first time.

The Weather

For Nebraska—Fair; showers southeast.

Table with columns: Hour, Temp., Wind, Clouds. Rows for 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00, 6:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00.

Comparative Local Records

Table with columns: Station and Date, Temp., High, Rain. Rows for various stations and dates.

Reports from Stations at 7 P. M.

Table with columns: Station and Date, Temp., High, Rain. Rows for various stations and dates.

To the Readers and Patrons of The Bee

Following out my promise to keep the public advised of any changes in The Bee organization of interest outside the office, I have to announce that in the position of Superintendent of our Mechanical Department F. H. Chase is to be succeeded about April 1 by George V. Chandler, now in charge of our press room.

During the year and more that Mr. Chase has been with The Bee he has put our mechanical work on an efficiency basis unmatched anywhere in the country, making it a model office, and he leaves wholly of his own volition to take up a similar work in another field.

It may be of interest also to state that in the recent election of officers for The Bee Publishing Company for the ensuing year Frank L. Haller, well known locally as head of the Lininger Company and throughout the state as member of the University Board of Regents, was chosen to fill the position of vice president, the other officers being re-elected, namely myself as president and N. P. Feil as secretary and treasurer.

Victor Rosewater

TO SUPERVISE SALE OF PRINT PAPER

Board of Five Men Will Have Charge of Distribution of Paper to Publishers.

URGE RIGID ECONOMY

Washington, March 20.—The Federal Trade commission plans to supervise the sale and distribution of news print paper through a board which will represent all interests concerned.

The board, to be named as soon as a price fixing pool proposed by the manufacturers finally is arranged, will comprise five members, one each from the manufacturers, jobbers, large publishers, small publishers and the trade commission. The Trade commission representatives will operate the pool from offices in New York. Other members of the board will serve in an advisory capacity and their powers will be purely ministerial.

Manufacturers who have been accused of intimidating publishers into remaining out of the price-fixing agreement have, it is understood, assured the commission that if there has been any intimidation subordinates have been responsible and that officers of the companies themselves have not countenanced it.

Members of the Trade commission just back from New York, where they urged on publishers the necessity for strict economy in the use of news print, say the war situation threatens a new condition in which the news print demand threatens to outstrip production. The balance has been extremely close for the last year.

U. S. Insurance Upon All Contraband But Guns and Ammunition

Washington, March 20.—The government war risk insurance bureau, which heretofore has insured only non-contraband, announced today that it would "broaden the scope of its operations" and hereafter insure practically all forms of contraband for European countries except arms and ammunition.

Under the law, no insurance can be issued on vessels or cargo of vessels other than American. Heretofore the bureau has declined to issue policies on articles declared contraband by belligerents, including almost all American products, with the result that only a small percentage of the American transatlantic merchant fleet was insured by the government.

Pure Food Week Set Apart by the Governor

(From a Staff Correspondent.) Lincoln, March 20.—(Special.)—The week beginning March 25 will be pure food week, Governor Neville having issued his proclamation to that effect, in which he says:

"I deem it proper to follow in the steps of former governors and set aside a week in which all organizations of commercial endeavor, all societies of public welfare and business concerns engaged in selling, distributing or manufacturing goods, and those engaged in the production of food, are hereby requested to join in the movement and aid in making the work of those who carry out the will of the people a success."

Fairbury Recluse Found Dead in Shack Near Town

Fairbury, Neb., March 20.—(Special Telegram.)—George W. Smith, a recluse, living in a shack just east of the city, was found dead in his bed today by neighbors. His death attributed to heart disease. He was 60 years of age and had resided in and near Fairbury for sixteen years. He lived in a tent northwest of the city for several years. Some currency and exchange checks were found about the premises.

Britain Considers Holding Conference on Irish Crisis

London, March 20.—Andrew Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer, informed the House of Commons today that the government is considering the advisability of calling a conference, including representatives of the dominions, to formulate a settlement of the Irish situation.

GREAT FRENCH WARSHIP SUNK BY SUBMARINE

Battleship of Danton Class Sent to Bottom by German U-Boat, According to Berlin Admiralty.

FIVE CRAFT OF THE TYPE OF MORE THAN EIGHTEEN THOUSAND TONS AND WITH COMPLEMENT OF 681.

GOES DOWN VERY QUICKLY

Berlin, March 20.—(Wireless to Sayville.)—A French battleship of the Danton class was sunk by a German submarine in the Mediterranean yesterday, the admiralty announced today.

The admiralty statement reads: "A German submarine, commanded by Lieutenant-Captain Morait, on March 19, in the western Mediterranean sank a large French battleship of the Danton class, protected by destroyers.

"The battleship was running a zig-zag course. Immediately after being hit it listed heavily and capized, forty-five minutes later."

There are five battleships of the Danton class, in addition to the name ship, the others being the Mirabeau, Diderot, Condorcet, Vergniaud and the Voltaire. All except the Vergniaud were completed in 1909. It has a length of 481 feet, beam eighty-four feet and draft of 27.5 feet. Its armament consists of four 12-inch guns, twelve 9.4-inch guns, sixteen 2.9-inch guns, ten three-pounders and two torpedoes tubes submerged. They average about 19.5 knots in speed. They displace 18,028 tons. The complement consists of 681 officers and men.

Tumulty Declares History Will Give President His Due

Newark, N. J., March 20.—Secretary Tumulty, in an address at a dinner given in his honor here tonight spoke of the "infinite patience and skillful hands" with which President Wilson is guiding the destiny of the nation.

"No man can realize what he has done and is doing for the United States of America, for the world, for civilization and humanity," said Mr. Tumulty. "Some day a great historian will tell the story of what he has endured, of the problems he has met, of the scrupulous care and patience he has taken to preserve the rights of America and to keep free and open the processes of liberty.

"Children in the schools and young men in the colleges will read in the text books of the unsurpassing justice of the statesman who was raised up to direct the destiny of this nation in its most trying hour. We are too close to the world events of the last few years to appreciate them, to estimate justly the wonderful period in which we are living."

Officials Begin Search to Discover the Origin of Fires

An arson trust in Omaha, whose members start fire in business buildings, is the subject of investigation now by Fire Warden Morris.

"I have nothing for publication just now," said the fire warden, "but my probe promises some real revelations."

The trail of the fire-bugs, it is understood, leads close to the \$800,000 fire which devastated the Berg and Hartman properties in the Continental building at the northwest corner of Fifteenth and Douglas streets a month ago. The fire warden's suspicions have been focused on a moving picture theater which has recently been afire twice. The smell of gasoline and some empty gasoline containers were found in the theater after the last fire.

Fire Warden Morris does not attempt to impede motives to the members of the arson gang. He admits that he does not know as yet whether revenge or connivance with others actuated the fire-bugs. But he is busily pushing his probe and is working to establish the guilt or innocence of suspected persons.

Young Kuehnle Fined For Speeding His Car

Iowa City, Ia., March 20.—(Special Telegram.)—Carl Frederick Kuehnle of Denison, son of C. F. Kuehnle, candidate for governor at the last primary, and a student in the University of Iowa, was arrested for speeding this afternoon. He pleaded guilty and was fined \$5 and costs.

The car which is the property of Loyal Voss of Denison is the same one which struck and killed Mrs. E. B. Wilson two weeks ago, when Horace Pilcher of Ida Grove was at the wheel.

Kimball Would Put Suffrage Up to the Women of Iowa

(From a Staff Correspondent.) Des Moines, Ia., March 20.—(Special Telegram.)—When the woman suffrage amendment comes up on the floor of the senate of the Iowa legislature, Senator Kimball will propose an amendment giving women the right to vote at the next general election on whether or not they wish the franchise.

GERMAN RETREAT BECOMES SLOWER

Gale Over Northern France Makes Pursuit of the Teutons Difficult.

ENTENTE LINE ADVANCED

Bulletin. Paris, March 20.—French cavalry has advanced to within about four and one-half miles of St. Quentin, one of the larger towns believed to be strongly defended by the Germans. Further progress by the French is reported in the official statement tonight, and considerable territory has been reconquered between the Somme and the Aisne.

London, March 20.—"Despite the less favorable weather conditions," says the official report from British headquarters in France tonight, "we made considerable progress again today along the greater part of the front of our advance south of Arras and a further fourteen villages have been cleared of the enemy.

"Our troops have now passed the general line of Canizy, Estree-En-Chaussee, Nurlu, Vela and St. Legeur."

London, March 20.—Telegraphing from the British headquarters in France, Reuter's correspondent says: "The pace of the German retreat seems to have slowed down considerably during the last twenty-four hours, a fact for which the very wild weather may well be responsible. A violent gale has been roaring over northern France and is still very heavy.

"Many rain squalls have swept over the battle area, but these have not sufficed to render the ground bad, and there is a keen drying edge in the wind. Notwithstanding the tempestuous weather, however, our troops have made considerable progress."

Line Held by Entente.

"Followed roughly from the south of Arras, our front now runs through or on the fringe of the following places:

"Bourains, Mercatel, Boiry-Becquerelle, Boyelles, St. Leger, Vaux-Vraucourt, Beugny, Haplincourt, Barastre, Bus, Leachtele, Etricourt, Molsains, Peronne, Doingt, St. Christ, Voyennes and Canizy, to the neighborhood of Ham, on the eastward bend of the Somme.

"Our cavalry and infantry patrols are everywhere active east of this line. We hold the line of the Somme in strength from Peronne southward to Canizy. Our reconnaissance patrols are active as far east as Mous-en-Chaussee. In several sectors between Bauphaume and Arras our cavalry maintained their touch with the enemy all day yesterday. There was a good deal of skirmishing, but no heavy fighting."

Advancing More Difficult.

Paris, March 20.—The war office announces that the French are still maintaining contact with the Germans along the section of the front over which the retirement is taking place, but that the advance has become more difficult by reason of the destruction of all means of communication and on account of bad weather.

German attacks at Avarcourt Wood and Hill 304, on the Verdun front, were repulsed. Serious loss was inflicted on the Germans.

Railroads to Boost Tourist Rates West, Says Gerrit Fort

Chicago, March 20.—Summer tourist rates passenger fares from Chicago and all points east to Colorado, Utah and Yellowstone National park will be advanced \$2.50 by all lines on each round trip ticket, it was announced today. No action has been taken on summer tourist fares to California, according to Gerrit Fort, passenger traffic manager of the Union Pacific system in Chicago, but he said there will probably be an advance from \$72.50 to \$75. Summer rates become effective on June 1, and continue until September 30.

Colonial Chiefs Meet With Members of British Cabinet

London, March 20.—The British imperial conference was inaugurated today. For the first time the colonial statesmen sat with the members of the British government around a table in the council room at Premier Lloyd George's official residence.

The colonial representatives were Sir Robert L. Borden, the Canadian premier; William F. Massey, premier of New Zealand; Sir Robert Morris, the prime minister of Newfoundland; Lieutenant General Smuts, minister of the interior of the Union of South Africa, and a group of three representing India, namely, J. Austen Chamberlain, the secretary for India; the Maharajah of Bikaner and Sir Satyendra P. Sinha, a member of the executive council of the Viceroy of India. Australia has not yet been represented.

Barry Told to Proceed With the Mustering Out

Chicago, March 20.—Major General Thomas H. Barry, commander of the Central Department United States army, received orders from a Washington today to proceed with the mustering out of the troops in his department recently returned from the Mexican border.

Alleged Forger Brought Back From Great Falls

William Conway, who is said to have passed a trail of worthless checks across the country, a number of the victims being Omaha banks and merchants, was brought back from Great Falls, Mont., Monday afternoon by Detective Frank Murphy.

Asquith Defends Kitchener's Part in Dardanelles Blunder

Former Premier Replies to Criticism of Late Minister's Conduct of the War.

HE DID NOT SHUN ADVICE

London, March 20.—An energetic defense of the late Lord Kitchener was made in the House of Commons today by former Premier Asquith, who replied to the criticisms leveled at his government in the recently published report of the Dardanelles commission.

"Lord Kitchener was a masterful man, endowed with formidable personality and disposed by nature to keep his own counsel," said Mr. Asquith. "But it is a mistake to suggest that he lived in isolation and did not consult military opinion as to the conduct of the war. That is untrue, but it is true that during the early months of the war he acted as his own chief of staff.

"When the war broke out members of the general staff were sent to the front. Their places were taken by officers who had been in retirement. The best and highest authority at that time was Lord Kitchener, himself. Nothing fills me with greater indignation than the attack made on Lord

Kitchener, whose memory is in no danger and will live."

Mr. Asquith said the Dardanelles expedition was primarily a naval one, because Lord Kitchener proved to the satisfaction of the war council that the resources to make it a joint military and naval undertaking were not available. The war council spent three weeks in examining the country's available resources in men and in obtaining opinions of experts. British and French naval expert opinion favored the enterprise. The adverse view of Lord Fisher, then first sea lord, was not founded on technical naval objections, but upon his preference for a different objective in a totally different sphere of operations. "The delay in sending troops, Mr. Asquith continued, was due to the Russian position, which was then bad and pressure was brought to bear by both the British and French commanders in chiefs to keep their troops in France.

Mr. Asquith asserted the Dardanelles operations had saved the situation in the Caucasus, prevented for months the defection of Bulgaria to the central powers, kept 300,000 Turks mobilized, destroyed some of the finest troops in the Turkish army and contributed to the favorable results witnessed in Egypt, Mesopotamia and Persia.

INTERNEED GERMAN OFFICERS DROWN

Seventeen Men On Cruisers at Philadelphia Navy Yard Attempt to Escape.

FIFTEEN ARE RECAPTURED

Washington, March 20.—Lieutenant Orth and Machinist Mate Hermann Schroeder of the German interned crews at Philadelphia navy yards are believed to have been drowned last night in an attempt to escape.

Eight other men, who escaped at the same time, have been captured by companies of marines and the Philadelphia police. These are in addition to the seven men who were reported last night as having failed to escape.

In the light of the present situation and all circumstances, the presence of a German diplomatic agent abroad in the country is looked upon with some concern. The prospect of German sailors at large also is regarded with apprehension.

All the men interned at Philadelphia are to be transferred this week to Fort McPherson and Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, where they will be kept in stockades and guarded by troops of the Seventeenth infantry.

Philadelphia, Pa., March 20.—A dash for liberty by seven members of the crews of the German auxiliary cruisers, Kronprinz Wilhelm and Prinz Eitel Friedrich, interned at the Philadelphia navy yard, was frustrated last night by marines and policemen who were on guard outside the yard. Four of the Germans were captured while attempting to swim the back channel, while the other three were caught in the meadows after swimming the icy waters of the channel.

Italians Win Air Battle Above Pola; Arsenal Bombarded

Rome (Via Paris), March 20.—Reciprocal airplane attacks by Austrians and Italians are reported in an official statement issued by the war office. The text of the statement follows:

"Our sea planes carried out a raid on Pola and dropped bombs on the arsenal. Five enemy airplanes, escorted by destroyers, attacked our machines, but were driven off by French airplanes which were supporting us.

"On March 19, shortly before dawn, enemy seaplanes bombarded Grado and coast territory to the east occupied by us. There were no victims and the damage done was insignificant. Immediately afterwards a squadron of our seaplanes bombarded the Lloyd ship yard at Muggia, near Trieste. All of the Italian and French machines returned safely."

Veterinarian Held On Charge of Sale of "Dope" to Users

Accused of selling "dope" to drug addicts, A. L. Van Gordon, veterinary surgeon, 2013 Cuming street, was arrested late Monday afternoon.

Federal officers, who caught his arrest, are said to have sent decoys into his place with marked money to purchase "dope." Detectives of central station, who made the arrest, say that they found some of the marked money in possession of the veterinarian.

Dr. Van Gordon will be given preliminary hearing Wednesday morning before United States Commissioner McLaughlin. He is now at liberty under \$2,000 bail bond.

Doomed Murderers Who Broke Prison Are Shot to Death

Birmingham, Ala., March 20.—David Overton, convicted murderer of Judge W. Thomas Lawler of Huntsville, and two other convicts, sentenced to death for murder, who escaped from the county jail here this morning with him, were surrounded by a sheriff's posse tonight in a Birmingham suburb and shot to death.

PRESIDENT AND CABINET STUDY GERMAN CRISIS

Washington Officials Believe that State of War With Germany Already Exists.

MANY PLANS CONSIDERED

U. S. May Co-Operate With Entente Navies in Clearing Atlantic Sea Lanes.

CONGRESS MAY BE CALLED

Washington, March 20.—When the cabinet adjourned after a two-hour meeting none of the members would make any statement. Secretary Daniels would only say there had been no new orders to the navy. Informally intimations were given that some announcement from the White House might be expected tomorrow.

The impression grew that the president had determined to hasten the coming of congress, already called to meet in extra session on April 16.

Daniels Has Conference.

As soon as he returned to his office from the cabinet meeting Secretary Daniels went into conference with the navy general board. It was not revealed whether the session was the result of any new decision reached by the president and his cabinet.

The most general opinion in administration quarters was that there was no likelihood of a declaration of war against Germany, although the probability appeared to be for a formal recognition that a state of war exists because of Germany's acts against the United States.

The statement was authorized at the White House that the president and the cabinet discussed every phase of the situation. As has been the case since all official Washington acknowledged that a state of war practically exists between the United States and Germany, there is a wide range of speculation on the precise action President Wilson contemplates, but there is no official ground for any forecast.

Calling of congress in extra session before April 16, the day first chosen for its assembly, still continues foremost among the probabilities, but there are no indications that Mr. Wilson had finally decided upon it. On the other hand, there were some indications that the date of the session would not be advanced.

May Co-operate With Entente.

Preparations for carrying out the policy of armed neutrality to its fullest degree are being hurried in the Navy department. The possibilities of their execution range even to active co-operation at sea with the British and French fleets to clean submarines out of the shipping lanes.

It was learned definitely before the cabinet meeting that the president, while considering deliberately all phases of the situation, had not finally made up his mind on any forward step beyond the active preparation of the navy for any eventuality.

President Wilson is taking the position that at all events the nation must be placed in a better state of preparedness because he believes that from a practical standpoint Germany is making war on this country.

The president is known to believe that the objects he has in mind—the establishment of a league to preserve future peace—has been set far forward by the revolution in Russia. The murmurings against autocracy in Germany are also being considered.

Attitude of President.

No doubt remains in the minds of most officials that unless there is some unlooked-for change before congress meets the president will open the extra session with an address making clear the new position into which he feels the United States has been forced by Germany's ruthless disregard of American rights. He may discuss universal military training.

The indications before the cabinet assembled were that there would be no change in the situation before tomorrow, although it was possible that discussion at the meeting might lead the president to act at once.

Administration officials believe the nation is already virtually in a state of war with Germany and the only question undecided is whether there shall be any immediate announcement of that status through a new call for congress or otherwise.

Navy Yards Ordered to Build U-Boat Chasers

Washington, March 20.—The New Orleans navy yard was today ordered to build at once four submarine chasers. The New York yard yesterday was ordered to build fifty.

The department has called upon all navy yards fitted to undertake small boat construction to submit estimates as to the number of submarine chasers they can turn out quickly.

Bremerton, Mare Island, Portsmouth, Boston, Charleston and other yards, probably will be designated to begin construction of chasers, to the full extent of the capacity.

Has His Hand Mangled When Caught in Elevator

Imprisoned for half an hour in the bottom of an elevator shaft, John Newton, an electrician in the employ of Bert LeBron, narrowly escaped serious injury. His hand was caught between the elevator cable and the drum and was badly mangled before he was released from his perilous position. Drs. Shook and Duncan attended him. He is in Lord Lister hospital.

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